

closecampsfield.wordpress.com/ £/p contribution welcome

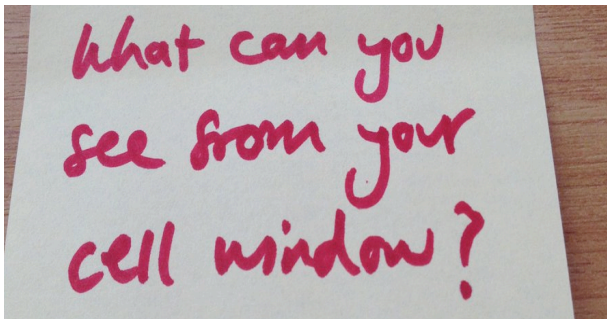
The Campsfield Monitor

Campaign to Close Campsfield and End All Immigration Detention @closecampsfield

Live Q & A with Christopher and Jose in Campsfield

The week beginning 14 November was **Campsfield week** in #unlocked16, the virtual tour of the UK's detention centres organised by Detention Forum/Detention Action/Right To Remain

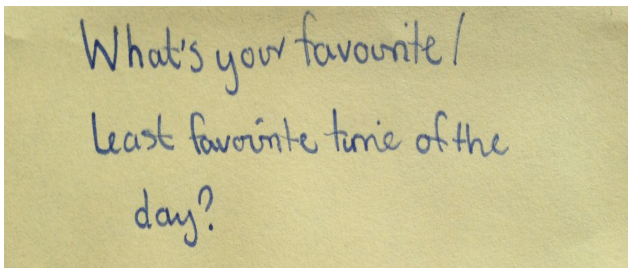
18 November:



TheDetentionForum @DetentionForum

C: The next corridor wall.

J: The fence.



TheDetentionForum @DetentionForum

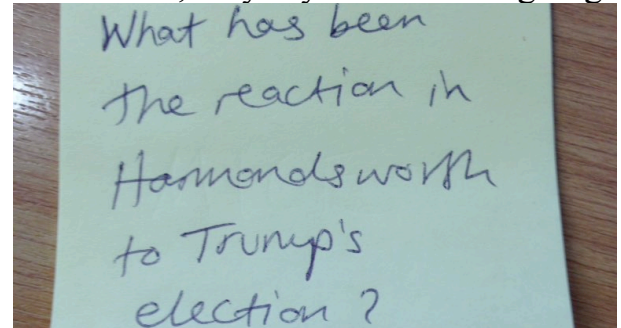
J: Anything to do w/ healthcare is worst. This surprised me, I expected the other

way round. Any music is the best part for me.



TheDetentionForum @DetentionForum

C: Yes, worst is medical. Some of them not professional. They treat like criminals. If we are talk, they say we are we arguing.



Question for #Unlocked16 Q&A with Mark detained in Harmondsworth #Trump #MigrantJustice #BuildTrustNotWalls



TheDetentionForum @DetentionForum

J (1/2): Everyone shocked, even the guards! People are scared re. the political situation. We see the Express & Daily Mail in the library...



TheDetentionForum @DetentionForum

J (2/2): It is always the same...Brexit, Brexit, Brexit. Always blaming the migrants. Same with Trump

See: <http://unlocked.org.uk>

1 TWENTY-THREE YEARS TOO LONG ! CLOSE CAMPSFIELD AND ALL DETENTION CENTRES !

November 2016

Health 'care' in detention

While detention centres like Campsfield 'House' continue to exist, people locked up in them are entitled under law, secondary legislation and guidance to healthcare which should be of the same standard as that enjoyed by the rest of the population in the UK, and which should take account of their special needs.

They are also entitled to be released if they are vulnerable (as medically assessed).*

But healthcare is far from perfect, as the following reports from Campsfield over the years indicate:

Problems at Campsfield

These have included:

- . poor care (detainees used to call the doctor 'Dr Paracetamol' because that was the extent of prescription on offer)
- . lack of confidentiality (consultations not held in private)
- . lack of access to prescribed hospital treatment
- . withholding medicine for chronic conditions such as diabetes, HIV or pain ('you can come and get it from the health centre when you need it – no you can't have a supply to keep')
- . lack of continuity of care (for example, medical notes not following an individual, and not being sent on when they are moved). If the medical notes are not available, this means that treatment may in effect be denied.

Two young men have taken their own life while imprisoned in Campsfield, an indictment of the health 'care' in itself: on 27 June 2005, Ramazan Kumluca, 18, a Kurdish asylum seeker, hanged himself,

2 TWENTY-THREE YEARS TOO LONG ! CLOSE CAMPSFIELD AND ALL DETENTION CENTRES !

CAMPSFIELD MONITOR

and on 2 August 2011 Ianos Dragutan, 31, from Moldova, hanged himself in a shower at Campsfield.

On 18 October 2013, Farid Pardiaz, who according to a psychiatric report was expressing a depressive episode at the time, set fire to B Block in Campsfield. His requests to see a doctor in the days leading up to his desperate act were refused.

The medical assessment of the vulnerable rarely takes place. And even when a medical practitioner makes a clear assessment that a person should be released, and forwards this to the Home Office, the responsible Home Office Immigration Enforcement case worker rarely accepts it. This is especially true for torture victims.



NHS England and Care UK take over

Responsibility for healthcare in detention centres passed to NHS England in 2015. There has been no improvement. Negligent practices have continued. Detainees are routinely handcuffed when taken for medical appointments.

An ad hoc national group of campaigners and visitors, most part of the national Detention Monitoring Group, is now inquiring into health care in detention

centres. They are finding a very complex situation with poor accountability. In Campsfield the private health care provider is Care UK. This is part of Bridgepoint Capital, a company interested in making a profit and paying as little tax as it can.

They have a five-year contract with NHS England. We have seen the regular information headings of this contract; they do not include information we would see as crucial, and instead have data on obesity clinics and dementia sufferers. Rather than ask visitors to the centres about what is needed, they have devised questionnaires for detainees, who have no guarantee of confidentiality, and are hampered anyway by not knowing what healthcare should look like.

There are public bodies who are meant to hold outfits like Care UK to account, but they have few teeth. However they do need to be pressed into action – local Health scrutiny committees, Healthwatch, and the CQC. If this interests you, and you want to be involved, get in touch with the Campsfield Campaign.

Full text of article on #unlocked16: <http://unlocked.org.uk/blog/healthcare-a-labyrinthine-system-a-campsfield-case-study/>

* Groups listed as unsuitable for detention except in very exceptional circumstances are: unaccompanied minors; families with a minor under the age of 18; the elderly; pregnant women; those suffering from serious medical conditions ‘if their conditions cannot be satisfactorily managed within detention’; those suffering from serious mental illness ‘if their conditions cannot be satisfactorily managed within detention’; those with independent evidence of a history of torture; persons with serious disabilities; persons identified as victims of trafficking.

Experience of many organisations such as Medical

Justice, BID, Red Cross, is that people in these categories are detained very frequently and their stories/conditions are denied. Very exceptional circumstances are never defined and shrouded in a mystery of inconsistency. Medical examinations (physical and mental) are often not made in appropriate way, by a qualified person, according to the ‘rules’, or even do not happen at all or too late.

The lack of a human face

How such intricate systems work, is their reliance on opacity, impenetrability and a consistent deferring of responsibility between various departments, offices and staff: what Arendt calls ‘the lack a human face’. - #unlocked blog Reimagining violence: Hannah Arendt and the bureaucratisation of life in immigration detention, November 4th, 2016

<http://unlocked.org.uk/blog/reimagining-violence-hannah-arendt-and-the-bureaucratisation-of-life-in-immigration-detention/>

Health professionals call for an end to immigration detention

A letter to prime ministers Theresa May and Malcolm Turnbull (Australia) signed by 1,383 individuals and 24 organisations was published in the *Lancet* on 4 November 2016:

To Prime Ministers Theresa May and Malcolm Turnbull,

As nurses, doctors, psychologists, midwives, and other health professionals, we are writing to make clear the unacceptable health risks of detention of asylum seekers and refugees, and to call for an end to policies that require detention of asylum seekers and refugees.

Our professional codes of conduct compel

November 2016

us to advocate for our patients, and to speak out against legislation, practices or services that are inadequate or pose a threat to health. After countless reports from different national and international bodies including Médecins Sans Frontières, the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees, and the British and Australian Medical Associations,^{1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6} we know without doubt that prolonged detention poses unacceptable risks to mental and physical health.

Pregnant women, children, lesbian, gay, bisexual, and transgender people, and those with chronic illness or disability face additional risk. 85% of parents and children in detention experience negative mental health consequences.⁷ Rape, sexual violence, abuse, self-harm, and suicide are common. Poor housing conditions increase the transmission of infectious diseases. Inadequate provision of medical care means that avoidable disability and death are too common.

Today (Nov 5, 2016) in cities around Australia, thousands of doctors are protesting against Australia's inhumane treatment of asylum seekers and refugees. We stand with them. Nurses, doctors, and health workers working in detention centres have risked prison sentences to speak out about the frequent abuse, self-harm, and poor medical care in these camps. We stand with them. Refugees and asylum seekers continue to tell their stories of abuse, and of deterioration in their physical and mental health. We stand with them.

Claiming asylum is a human right, as is accessing health care. The current programmes of detention in countries including the UK, Australia, and the US

CAMPSFIELD MONITOR

punish people fleeing persecution and are often designed to be so cruel as to act as a deterrent for others seeking safety. We believe that these policies are inhumane and pose an unacceptable threat to health. For these reasons, we call for an immediate end to the detention of asylum seekers and refugees globally.

We declare no competing interests.

[http://www.thelancet.com/journals/lancet/article/PIIS0140-6736\(16\)32118-3/fulltext](http://www.thelancet.com/journals/lancet/article/PIIS0140-6736(16)32118-3/fulltext)

Three scenes from Campsfield

William is from the Freed Voices collective (<http://detentionaction.org.uk/freed-voices>) who have lost over 20 years between them to immigration detention in the UK. He wrote this blog for last year's #Unlocked. <http://unlocked.org.uk/blog/three-scenes-from-campsfield-irc/>

Scene I

I was detained the day I arrived in the UK. I landed at 8am, we left for Campsfield at around 10.40pm, and I arrived there around midnight. I was put into a van with four other guys – one was Brazilian, one from Chad, one from Albania, one from Saudi Arabia. We were transported like criminals. The van drove very fast. The doors were locked. It was very dark. There were cameras on the walls. When we arrived at Campsfield, I was taken straight to my cell along with the Brazilian. He couldn't speak any English. I looked at the Brazilian as we stood in the doorway but he said nothing. We couldn't speak but, at that moment, he was my best friend in the whole world.

There were two other guys in the cell who were asleep already. They didn't move.

4 TWENTY-THREE YEARS TOO LONG ! CLOSE CAMPSFIELD AND ALL DETENTION CENTRES !

November 2016

The room was tiny. It felt very congested. It felt like it was meant for only one person but four people were being crammed up in it. There was a window. Someone had been smoking. I could smell it mixed up with the smell of people who had been there a long time. I walked over to try and open it but it was stuck.

When we had arrived they had given us each a key and a padlock. This was for the individual locker in the room. I put the clothes I had with me inside. They had also given me toothpaste and a toothbrush. I didn't have anything else. They took my phone off me when I came in. The room was dark. We used the light from the corridor to guide us.

It was one-down one-up and so I climbed up to one top-decker and the Brazilian did the same on the other bunk. My bed was 'Bed D'. The Brazilian was in 'Bed A'. The mattress was small and covered in plastic. I had a sleepless night that night. No winks. I couldn't catch anything. I couldn't think straight. I didn't know where I was heading or what was coming. I never thought I'd end up in somewhere like this when I claimed asylum in the UK. I felt like someone had plunged me into the middle of mystery. I felt depressed like never before.

Scene II

I was coming from my induction when I first met James. The induction had not been much use. They told us about meal-times and the facilities but nothing about why I was there or how long I would be locked up. James was my real induction.

I was heading back to my room, walking down the corridor. I was still very stressed, very upset and shaken. I was scared to talk

CAMPSFIELD MONITOR

to other people or look them in the eye. And everyone I had seen since arriving in the UK was white – white and aggressive.

James was actually the first black person I saw. I felt a little at home! He came over to me. He was very bald and soft. He greeted me. He asked me where I was from and how long I'd been at Campsfield. He asked me how long I'd stayed in the UK. He asked if I'd been in contact with my family back home. I told him they had taken my phone. He offered me his and told me to call them. He tried to calm me down. He could see in my face I was not fine.

He told me how to access legal aid. He was the one that told me about the Rule 35 format, none of the officers had mentioned it to me. I asked him when I would be free from here. He said he couldn't tell me that. He said that no-one knew that. He told me that if I needed to know anything else I should ask him and he would try his best to help.

We spoke for about thirty minutes in that corridor. He cancelled his gym session. He encouraged me. He was heart-mending. He left me with some belief, some courage. I felt like someone was listening to me. I never got that feeling from the Home Office.

Scene III

There was one guy in Campsfield I will never forget. I saw him when I went to welfare. I was going there because I could not sleep. I was in Campsfield for four days and I don't think I really closed my eyes once.

We were both waiting in the queue. He said he had been detained for 11 months. He said he was thinking of withdrawing his case. He looked completely devastated. He

looked hopeless. He had uncontrollable hair. His face was very, very tired and very pale. He looked like someone in mourning, grieving over something. He showed me his leg. It had a huge scar across it. He told me he had lost his son in the same war he had got the scar. He said that since he had been in detention he had lost touch with the rest of his family. He felt desperate. His speech was angry and broken. He said he trusted no-one, nothing.

And then it hit me. Am I going to spend the same amount of time here? Am I going to turn into something like this?

That was the first and last time I spoke to him. I never saw him again. Every now and again I think about him. I think about lots of guys I met in detention. I can picture their faces. There are certain things that trigger different faces. Whenever I look at my SIM card, for example, I think about the guy that gave it to me in detention... I have one jumper that one guy gave me because it was cold. Whenever I wear it I am with him.

From detention to a new home

This year, at a City of Sanctuary/Right To Remain event in Swansea, William spoke about detention and about his experience in Cardiff, his new home

I came here for refuge, protection.

What I got were 20ft walls, a prison cell, and no end in sight.

It is really hard to explain the impact of indefinite detention...

Every day it feels like you are carrying a huge load on your mind.

I was taken to detention with lots of stress already in my head.

Everything there reminded of my experiences back in my home country and I was very scared.

The UK is the only country in Europe with no time-limit on detention.

And not knowing when I would get my freedom back multiplied this mental pressure. I couldn't concentrate on anything.

Sometimes I didn't even realise whether I was asleep or awake – everything just blurred into one.

I felt alone, caged, powerless.

Two and a half months later, I was released.

I was given refugee status, for which I am very grateful.

But at that point I did think... "so what was my detention for? Who was my detention for?"

In fact, almost 2/3 of all those in detention are released – their detention serves no purpose.

'I started to feel at home'

Lots of different people there helped me get back on my feet.

I found the community warm and friendly.

I was treated like a human – something I had not experienced in the UK up until this point.

I had come from the brutality, uncertainty and fear of detention.

And I started to feel safe in Cardiff – I was welcomed.

I started to feel at home.

One year later, and I was supporting Wales like crazy in the Euros.

I felt like 'I am Welsh now!'

I was jumping around with everyone.

I said to myself: 'I feel one of these people'.

I realise now that this is specifically what detention is designed to stop.

Detention is about division.

It is about separating us.

<http://www.righttoremain.org.uk/blog/>

November 2016

Campaign calendar

2015

November 28 150 attend 22nd anniversary demonstration

2016

26 January street stall outside Lush, Cornmarket, Oxford

5 March First edition of Campaign's online newsletter

7 May national day of solidarity with detained people

picnic demo at Campsfield part with Horns of Plenty,

22 June 'Immigration On Trial' public meeting with Movement for Justice, Alison Harvey ILPA, Eiri Ohtani DF, Gill Baden Bail Observation Project

October New fence on perimeter of fields around Campsfield erected by landowner

14 November Campsfield week in #Unlocked16: article on health 'care' and Q&A with detainees

26 November '23 years too long' demo

Throughout year Monthly demos and public meetings, work with local and national groups, giving talks/workshops, stalls, campaign members take part in convoys and visits to Calais and Dunkirk migrant camps

The 'detention estate', 2015-17

Last year, saw the publication in March of the report of the Parliamentary Inquiry into the Use of immigration Detention (<https://detentioninquiry.com/report/>). Lord Bates stated that the 'direction of travel' for the (Cameron) government was to detain fewer people for shorter periods.

Two relatively small detention centres closed in 2015, both run by the prison service unlike the majority run by private companies for profit: Haslar (197 beds) near Portsmouth in May and Dover (316 places) in November.

In July the government announced that 'The Cedars' pre-departure accommodation for up to 9 families with

CAMPSFIELD MONITOR

children, near Gatwick airport, would close and its functions be taken over by a unit in the nearby Tinsley 'House'. The step was condemned as retrograde by the Association of Visitors to Immigration Detainees, and by Barnardos, who had collaborated in running 'The Cedars'.

Works are currently in hand to increase the number of detention beds in Brook 'House' and Tinsley.

In September the government announced that Dungavel (249 places) in Lanarkshire would close by the end of 2017, to be replaced by a 'Short Term Holding Facility' (STHF) to be built near Glasgow Airport. On 8 November, a planning application for a 51-bed STHF was rejected unanimously at a meeting of Renfrewshire planning and property board. Then decision was welcomed by campaigners Stop Detention in Scotland.

On 31 October 2016, the Immigration Minister said that GEO's contract to run Dungavel had been extended to September 2017 (and was extendable to September 2019) and that its closure was dependent on planning permission for the new facility being granted

A Scottish Refugee Council statement (http://www.scottishrefugeecouncil.org.uk/news_and_events/news/3055_immigration_removal_facility_plans_rejected) ended

The Home Office's response to today's decision cannot be a return to the scandalous regime of indefinite detention in Dungavel nor can it be rendering people across the border to languish in prison-like centres in England away from support networks and legal representatives to act on their behalf.

Scotland led the way in bringing about an

November 2016

end to detaining children in immigration centres. We can now lead the way towards ending indefinite immigration detention.

Scottish Detainee Visitors concluded that closure of Dungavel and no STHF, if unlikely, would be the worst outcome: *While it would mean there would be no dedicated detention centre on Scottish soil, the result would be that people living in Scotland subject to immigration detention by the UK Government would be moved directly to England if they were detained. This would take them farther away from their families and communities and disrupt their legal support, without even a brief stopgap in a new STHF.* The SDV called for a reduction in the use of detention across the UK, based on: community-based alternatives, better immigration casework and decision making, better end of sentence planning for foreign national offenders, and detention as a last resort and for a maximum of 72 hours.
<http://sdv.org.uk/wp-content/uploads/2014/10/UPDATE-the-future-of-detention-in-Scotland.pdf>

Government's insulting answer

Paul Blomfield, Shadow Minister (Exiting the European Union)

To ask the Secretary of State for the Home Department, when she plans to publish her Department's Immigration Enforcement Business Plan for 2016-17.

Robert Goodwill, Minister for Immigration
Answered on: 07 November 2016

The Immigration Enforcement Business Plan for 2016-17 will be published in due course.

<https://www.theyworkforyou.com/wrans/?id=2016-10-27.50732.h>

8 TWENTY-THREE YEARS TOO LONG ! CLOSE CAMPSFIELD AND ALL DETENTION CENTRES !

CAMPSFIELD MONITOR

Oxford Migrant Solidarity

This year, Oxford Migrant Solidarity members have worked hard to increase student participation in the struggle to end immigration detention, and to connect these efforts with other like minded groups. Working with the Campaign to Close Campsfield, we organised a stall at the Oxford University Fresher's Fair which attracted a lot of interest and mailing-list sign-ups.



OMS stall outside Lush, Cornmarket

After this we hosted a talk by Movement for Justice and CCC, which was informative and practically useful. These events together helped us to increase attendance at meetings and gave us a new drive and new ideas for our work. We helped to increase student attendance at the demonstration outside Campsfield on October 29th, and received phone calls

November 2016

from detainees inside. This demo also helped us to increase awareness of immigration detention in other groups, such as Oxford University Labour Club and the Student Union's LGBTQ Campaign.

As part of a coalition of groups, we called a demonstration to protest the appearance of Corey Lewandowski, former presidential campaign manager to Donald Trump, at the Oxford Union. We look forward to the anniversary demo on November 26th as well as contributing to Oxford's attendance at the Yarl's Wood demo on December 3rd.



OMS phone number displayed for detainees to call for a visitor

Next year we will diversify and intensify our efforts to end immigration detention by democratising and formalising our organisation, as well as setting up a reading group and reaching out to even more community and student groups to join us in the struggle.

Bail Observation Project seeks more bail observers

In 2009 the Campaign to Close Campsfield formed a steering group to design a research project to get sound evidence showing the lack of justice in the way

CAMPSFIELD MONITOR

immigration law operates in the UK, particularly relating to immigration detention. The Bail Observation Project published two reports in 2011 and 2013 which were widely circulated. Our findings from 335 observations of bail hearings showed that even the Home Office's own instructions, rules and guidelines were not followed in many cases; also that the system itself denies justice to detainees.

We want to use these results to expose specific injustices further and make an inroad into public awareness such that reforms have to be made. We believe these reports show that we require root and branch reform of a fatally flawed system.

We hope to recruit more people for follow-up work. We are working several university law departments – Cardiff, Glasgow, City London, SOAS, Brookes – where groups of students have completed or are in the process of designing projects following up aspects of what we have exposed.

Observing immigration law in action exposes what is happening in our courts. Moreover, the presence of observers in the court enhances the applicant's likelihood of being granted bail. Prior to attending bail hearings or being involved in any way, basic reading is essential to make you aware of the system. This can be sent electronically on request from gillbaden@talktalk.com or found on bailobs.org

We are particularly interested in what happens in bail hearings where the detainee has no legal representative and is trying to represent him/her self. Particularly in these cases, results from our observations have been dire. At least we

9 TWENTY-THREE YEARS TOO LONG ! CLOSE CAMPSFIELD AND ALL DETENTION CENTRES !

November 2016

should ensure that the treatment of migrants is not inferior to treatment of British citizens.

Your findings could have practical use in improving the justice in our immigration legal system. Contact us soon if you are interested in taking part.

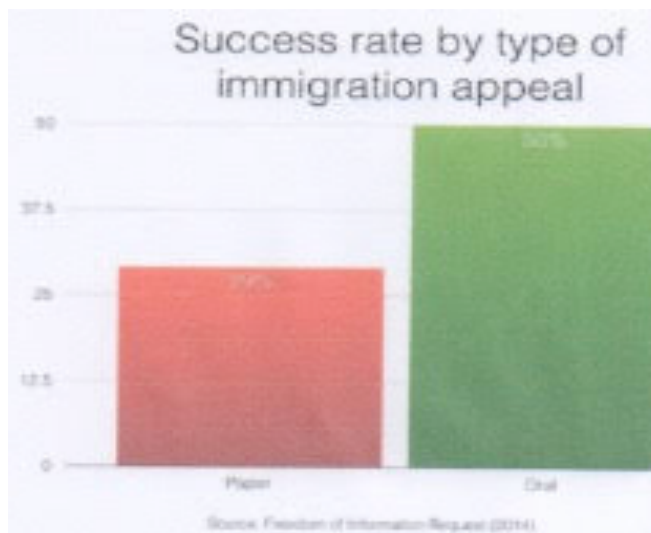
<http://bailobs.org/>

Closecampsfield.wordpress.com

info@closecampsfield.org.uk

The case for live hearings

In a post that bears out our observations about the unjust and oppressive use of videolink in immigration bail hearings, Colin Yeo of Free Movement gives this graphic comparing the success rates of immigration appeals decided 'on the papers' by the judges in private, and appeals heard in open court (oral) in the Immigration and Asylum Courts:



<https://www.freemovement.org.uk/success-rate-for-oral-compared-to-paper-immigration-appeals/>

Interpreting a major problem

An article from the Institute of Race Relations, by Asha Maniar, shows things have worsened since interpreting services in immigration courts were highlighted as

CAMPSFIELD MONITOR

a major problem in the two Bail Observation Project reports. Between October 2011 and October this year court translation services were contracted out to Capita. The contract meant 'reduced pay rates and lack of professional recognition and was largely boycotted by professional translators. A written parliamentary question revealed that more than 2,600 court cases were adjourned due to interpreter unavailability between 2011 and 2015. In many cases, trials proceeded without an interpreter or with one who was unqualified.

In new contracts running from 31 October 2016, the bulk of the work has gone to Yorkshire-based Thebigword. The £120 million contract is greater than that awarded to Capita TI, even though it covers a shorter period and fewer services.

Many professional foreign language interpreters have already expressed their dissatisfaction with the new contract, which offers them little incentive or professional recognition. A strike was due to take place on Monday 14 November.

<http://www.irr.org.uk/news/still-privatised-still-undervalued-new-court-interpreting-contract-from-31-october/>

Oxford Convoy2Calais

When the refugee camp outside Calais was established NGOs and charities moved in to aid those who came there. And groups of people in locations across Britain, including Oxford, organised themselves to collect clothes, bedding, food and other essentials to take over to the refugees.

Some of these local groups possible saw their purpose as charitable, but many more saw themselves as political organisations

November 2016

demanding the refugees be let into the UK, with the collection of supplies being a supportive part of their campaigning.

Early in 2016 a number of national organisations, mostly associated with the broadly-based People's Assembly, decided to call for a national "Convoy to Calais", in which groups from all over Britain would assemble in London and travel together, with supplies, to the camp. It was to be a practical political statement that would challenge the dominant story in the media of opposition to the refugees.

It was on this basis that Oxford Convoy2Calais came together, backed by a number of local organisations including the Close Campsfield Campaign. We were clear about our purpose: we want the British government to let in the refugees. Our collections are intended to help the refugees to survive until this happens.



As was widely reported at the time, the convoy was stopped at Dover and prevented from crossing the Channel to France. But a lorry, which contained around half the collected items, did get through. The convoy itself turned around and returned to London, holding an

CAMPSFIELD MONITOR

impromptu demonstration outside the French Embassy.

Items for the camp that didn't get through were put into storage in London. Four of us from Oxford Convoy2Calais went to London a week or so later and loaded a lot of this stuff into two cars, and took it to the camp.

A later collection of items in Oxford was also taken to the camp by a larger group of people. This time we were shown around the camp, seeing for ourselves the problems and privations the refugees had to face. A later trip had to be postponed because the planned date clashed with the date the French authorities announced for the clearance of the camp.

CONCERT FOR CALAIS



**Wednesday 9th November 2016
7.30pm**

**Holywell Music Room
Holywell Street, Oxford, OX1 3SD**

CHAMBER MUSIC WORKS FROM MOZART TO KHACHATURIAN

- ZEYNEP ÜZSÜCA
PIANO
- SACHA RATTLE
CLARINET
- NETA RUDICH
VIOLIN

ADVANCE TICKETS

**£12 before 26th October
2016**

**£15 after 26th October
2016**

[www.eventbrite.co.uk/
concert for Calais tickets](http://www.eventbrite.co.uk/concert-for-calais-tickets)

For more info:
oxford2calais@gmail.com

Oxford Convoy 2 Calais



FACULTY OF
MUSIC

**IN AID OF
Refugees of Calais**

But the clearance of the camp has not brought an end to our activities. The refugees are still there, as is the camp at Dunkirk. The charity we deliver to, Care4Calais, is still there, working with the refugees, and the postponed trip will now take place on December 10 as part of the Stand Up to Racism Winter Appeal.

11 TWENTY-THREE YEARS TOO LONG ! CLOSE CAMPSFIELD AND ALL DETENTION CENTRES !

November 2016

As well as delivering supplies we have also been active in organising things in Oxford. At the beginning of November a fund-raising "Concert for Calais" of chamber music by three classical musicians was held, and, on December 3 we will be holding a Welcome event for refugees already in Oxford, organised in conjunction with refugee organisations. The idea behind this is to help refugees that have arrived in Oxford to settle in, and it will take place at the Asian Cultural Centre.

To contact Oxford Convoy2Calais email oxford2calais@gmail.com.

Movement For Justice By Any Means Necessary

OXFORD TO #YARLSWOOD - SHUT IT DOWN! 3/12/16



Event to be held at the following time, date and location:

Saturday, 3 December 2016 from 10:15 to 19:30 (GMT)

Taylorian Institute, St Giles OX1 3NA Oxford

Statement from Movement for Justice received 22 November 2016 (extract)

We will not stand by and let Theresa May use Brexit as the basis to step up her policy of blaming immigrants for the poverty caused by Government policies. We will not stand by while she breaks up the public education system and uses Brexit to attack

CAMPSFIELD MONITOR

international students, increase deportations and take away our rights. And we will not stand by while the racist and fascist mobs whipped up Nigel Farage & Donald Trump step up their violent attacks and hate campaigns to destroy our freedom and our futures.

This is not 'business as usual.' We are witnessing the international growth of a fascist-style movement that is now closer to power in several 'western' countries than at any time for over 80 years. The politicians who use racist 'divide-and-rule' policies to increase hardship and insecurity for millions of people are responsible for the growth of that movement, because they prepared the ground for it. They are not capable of defeating it. ...

The Movement for Justice exists to build that movement nationally and internationally. We have led a growing struggle for immigrant rights against detention and deportation, with asylum seekers and detainees of many different nationalities taking the lead. We fight to unite the struggles against racism, sexism and anti-gay prejudice. We demand Open the Borders because it is the only realistic alternative to a world of growing barbarism and tyranny

<https://www.facebook.com/movementforjustice/>

November 2016

Right To Remain



Right to Remain has a new thread in its work, focusing on Detention: Understanding it, dealing with it, challenging it. Two recent events were in Manchester, on Wednesday 16 November a workshop on Practical solidarity, and on Wednesday 30 November one on These walls must fall: Campaigning for change.

<http://righttoremain.org.uk/>

Keep them out or lock them up – or security as freedom

Unprecedented numbers of men, women and children are fleeing war, persecution and environmental catastrophe. It is a global humanitarian crisis. Yet those who risk danger and death in their search for safety in Europe are treated by officialdom as a threat to security. The British government is spending millions on fences and a wall around Calais, and contracts private companies to imprison thousands in immigration detention centres.

The official message seems to be ‘keep them out or lock them up’. This is not only inhumane and unjust; the strategy of control and containment is also ineffective. Violent conflict is intensifying and the economic inequality gap is widening. These continue to be drivers of forced migration.

The Ammerdown Group, a collection of

CAMPSFIELD MONITOR

academics and peacebuilding practitioners concerned about human security worldwide, have produced a discussion paper called *Rethinking Security*. They challenge the dominant narrative which puts economic and political power and national interest first. They talk of the disproportionate influence of business interests on policy making, and the institutional inertia and political calculations which dismiss alternative approaches. For those of us trying to engage with the labyrinthine structure of immigration detention, the Home Office, and the vested interests of business, while campaigning to end detention, this is familiar territory.

The Ammerdown group suggest that we need to rethink security in terms of the wellbeing of all people, as a common right and a shared responsibility. In this way security becomes a shared freedom from fear and want, and the freedom to live in dignity. This seems a Utopian ideal at a time of Brexit and Trump, but it is the beginning of a challenging conversation.

The Ammerdown group is inviting contributions to a public discussion. For more information visit <http://rethinkingsecurity.org.uk/>

France allows journalists into detention centres

For years French journalists have been demanding access to detention centres and *zones d'attente* in ports, airports and railway stations. Now decree no. 2016-1457 published on 30 October allows for journalists to accompany French parliamentarians (national or European Parliament) on visits to detention centres

13 TWENTY-THREE YEARS TOO LONG ! CLOSE CAMPSFIELD AND ALL DETENTION CENTRES !

November 2016

and *zones d'attente*. Consent must be given by the prefect of the *département* and may be withheld by the centre manager only for overriding reasons of security or public order. To publish material in which the detained person may be recognised, the person's permission must be obtained, or in the case of a minor or child, the permission of a parent.

<https://www.legifrance.gouv.fr/eli/decret/2016/10/28/INTV1618871D/jo/texte>

Detention Action report on alternatives to detention

Detention Action has published *Without detention: Opportunities for alternatives*.

Arguing strongly against detention, the report draws on the International Detention Coalition's Community Assessment and Placement (CAP) model to propose alternatives to detention. It points to 'international evidence that alternatives are most effective when they engage migrants throughout the immigration processes. In countries including Australia and Sweden, such practices have led to reductions in detention and high levels of cooperation with immigration processes, with voluntary return rather than enforcement the main form of return.' ...

'The Government has committed to a programme of detention reform that should lead to a reduction in the numbers of people detained and the length of their detention. Two detention centres were closed in 2015; numbers of migrants detained for long periods are falling. The Detained Fast Track asylum process remains suspended, following Detention Action's legal challenges. The Government has legislated to limit the detention of pregnant women and introduce some

CAMPSFIELD MONITOR

automatic judicial oversight of detention for the first time.'

...

'The stakes are high: detention reform in the UK is fragile, while European migration systems are under unprecedented strain. The risk is of detention on a scale never before seen in the region. There has never been a greater need for alternatives.'

<http://detentionaction.org.uk/wordpress/wp-content/uploads/2016/09/Without-Detention.pdf>

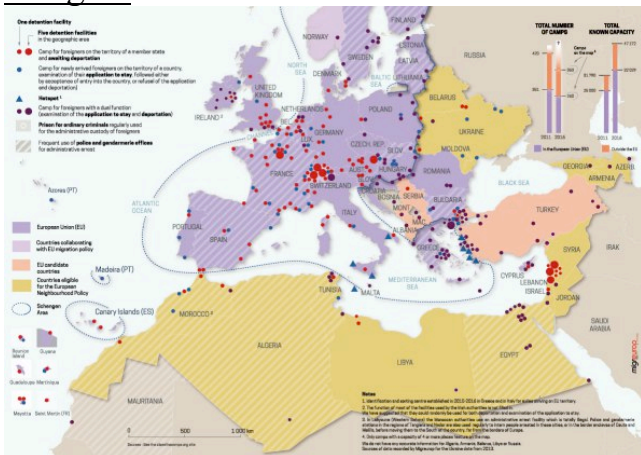
Privatization of immigration detention across Europe

The Close Campsfield campaign was a contributor to a recent report entitled *Migrant Detention in the European Union: A Thriving Business; Outsourcing and Privatisation of Migrant Detention* published by Migreurop and Rosa Luxemburg Stiftung Brussels. In a section on the UK, it says: 'The heavily criticised migrant detention system in the United Kingdom is among the most flagrant in terms of violations of the rights of detainees.' The report details the activities of G4S, Serco, MITIE, GEO and Tascor. Other chapters include 'The normalization of immigration detention', 'Human and financial cost of an ineffective policy', 'Impact of privatisation of immigration detention' on the lives of detainees, symbolic impact, and corruption between public and private sectors. 'Privatised management of migrant detention pushes these already obscure institutions further into the shadows,' concludes this valuable publication.

<http://www.migreurop.org/IMG/pdf/migrant-detention-eu-en.pdf>

November 2016

Map of Europe's detention camps
Migreurop's *Map of Camps* (6th edition) came out in November. The anti detention network identifies an increase in known capacity from 32,000 to 47,000 places between 2011 and 2016. The map is available online and in print.
<http://www.migreurop.org/article2747.html?lang=fr>



Standoff Films

Working Illegally (2015)

Undocumented migrants are not allowed to work in the UK while their right to stay in the country is being processed. However, in detention they work for £1 per hour, saving the private security companies contracted to run detention centres vast amounts of money.

Campsfield House: An Immigration Removal Centre (2014)

This documentary aims to tackle the lack of public engagement with the reality of immigration detention. By speaking with people about their personal experiences of Campsfield, we look behind the statistics that characterise mainstream media and politicians' reports on immigration.

<http://www.standoffilms.com>

CAMPSFIELD MONITOR

Useful organisations

Oxford University Amnesty International

We at Amnesty Soc will be doing our best to maintain that interest over the course of the academic year. Weekly meetings take place every Monday from Weeks 1 to 8 from 8.30pm to about 9.30pm in the Large Meeting Room in the Oxford Hub (above the Turl Street Kitchen).

Detained Voices

Stories, experiences and demands by people held in UK immigration detention centres.

<https://detainedvoices.wordpress.com/>

BID (Bail for Immigration Detainees)

'Bail for Immigration Detainees is an independent charity that exists to challenge immigration detention in the UK. We work with asylum seekers and migrants, in removal centres and prisons, to secure their release from detention.'

(from the national website:

<http://www.biduk.org/>

UK Detention Forum

The Detention Forum is a loose network of over 30 NGOs who are working together to challenge immigration detention. Members of the Campsfield campaign are active in the Forum. The Forum was instrumental in the setting up of the all-party Parliamentary Inquiry into the Use of immigration Detention (detentioninquiry.com/)

detentionforum@wordpress.com

Migreurop

Anti detention network of 43 NGOs from 16 countries in Europe, Africa and the Middle East. The Campsfield campaign has a representative on its Administrative Council.

<http://www.migreurop.org/?lang=en>

Corporate Watch

Corporate Watch is a small independent not-for-profit research and publishing group which undertakes research on the social and environmental impact of large corporations, particularly multinationals. They have a strong thread on immigration detention:

<http://www.corporatewatch.org.uk/?lid=21&query=detention>

November 2016

Right To Remain

'Supports community campaigns for justice in the immigration and asylum systems. We support people fighting for their right to remain, and wider campaigns for migration rights.' Their in-person, blog, Twitter and Facebook activity gives accessible and up to date information and help for campaigners and individuals fighting against deportation. Their excellent *Campaigning Toolkit: An aid to understanding the asylum and immigration systems, and campaigning for the right to stay* is online and in hard copy.

<http://righttoremain.org.uk/>

Asylum Welcome

Oxford body that supports refugees, asylum seekers, immigration detainees in. 01865 722082
office@asylum-welcome.org

Freed Voices

A collective of experts-by-experience who have lost over 20 years between them to immigration detention in the UK and who speak out about it.

<http://detentionaction.org.uk/freed-voices>

Freedom From Torture

(formerly Medical Foundation). Cares for survivors of torture. Oxford supporters group: halcyon.leonard@ntlworld.com or 01865 452783. (www.torturecare.org.uk)

Medical Justice

Trains local doctors to give independent medical advice to detainees. Arranges for medico legal reports, campaigns for improved health care. mjoxford@yahoo.co.uk All referrals for medical reports: med@medicaljustice.org.uk

Open Door

Weekly drop-in 11-4 Thursdays for refugees and asylum seekers, hot meal, games, signposting advice, East Oxford Community Centre. Contact: opendoor@yahoo.co.uk

Oxford Migrant Solidarity

Supportive group showing solidarity with and visiting people in detention in Oxford. Communicating despite the fences. Contact: oms@riseup.net

Amnesty International, Oxford City

This group sent a motion on detention to the 2015 AI conference and is part of the working group on

16 TWENTY-THREE YEARS TOO LONG ! CLOSE CAMPSFIELD AND ALL DETENTION CENTRES !

CAMPSFIELD MONITOR

migrant rights. Contact: chair@oxford-amnesty.org.uk;
secretary@oxford-amnesty.org.uk

Refugee Resource

Counselling and therapeutic activities, employment advice, mentoring and coaching. Old Music Hall, 106-8 Cowley Road, Oxford OX4 1JE. Tel. 01865 403 280 / 0845 458 0055.
www.refugeeresource.org/
info@refugeeresource.org

Trade unions

Oxford Trades Council and local union branches support the campaign. To contact a TU branch, ask the secretary of Oxford & District Trades Union Council oxfordtuc@aim.com, or tel. 01865 558145.

Visit a detainee! Contact the Campaign or Oxford Migrant Solidarity or Asylum Welcome (see above)

Campaign to Close Campsfield

Closecampsfield.wordpress.com

closecampsfield@riseup.net

01865 558145 / 01993 703 994

Demonstrate noon, last Saturday of month
Meetings first Tuesday, 7.30, Oxford Town Hall

Email list: closecampsfield-subscribe@yahoogroups.com

Twitter: [@closecampsfield](https://twitter.com/closecampsfield)

Facebook: Close Campsfield Campaign

